

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Primary immunodeficiency diseases are disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly; and,

Whereas, These disorders are caused by intrinsic or genetic defects in the immune system, many of which require chronic replacement therapy consisting of immunoglobulin administration, gamma interferon, antibiotic therapy, bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, or gene therapy to protect individuals from frequent life-threatening infections and debilitating illnesses; and,

Whereas, There is a 9.2-year delay from the onset of symptoms to diagnosis resulting in permanent functional impairments; and,

Whereas, The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 primary immunodeficiency diseases; and,

Whereas, The public and the medical community know little about primary immunodeficiency diseases that may affect as many as 250,000 people in the United States; and,

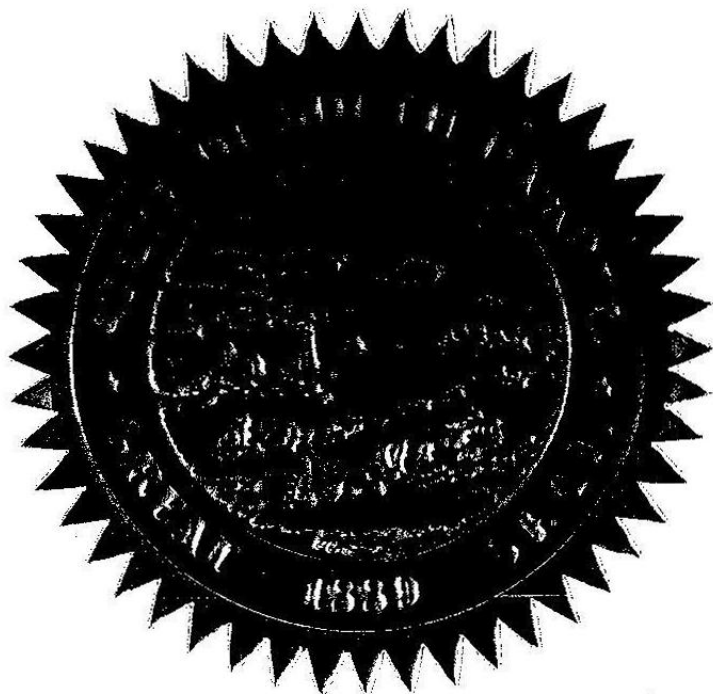
Whereas, The education of healthcare professionals is necessary to reduce delays in diagnosis; and,

Whereas, Widespread public support is needed to understand primary immunodeficiency diseases; find cures and provide access to all available life-saving therapies:

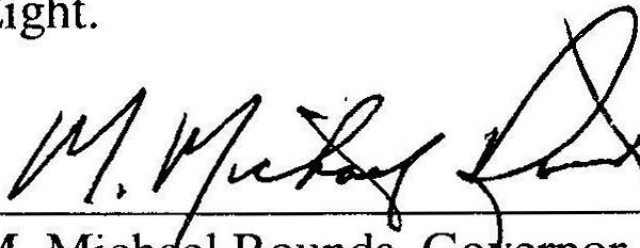
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 2008 as

PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State